

## Dekalb Earns Its Wings As South American Seed Flies Into The U.S.

DEKALB, Ill.— dozens of jumbo jetliners began landing at Miami International Airport as Dekalb Specific Trait corn hybrids make their way from South America to Midwest destinations.

Dekalb production locations throughout the country are beginning to package and deliver the newly grown corn seed.

Because of growing demand for Dekalb's Specific Trait Product lineup, the company has significantly increased the seed grown in South America this past winter for planting in North America. This winter production provides farmers with the latest in seed technology, including the industry's first Roundup Ready® seed corn as well as Dekalb™ corn hybrids.

Just-in-time deliveries are currently being scheduled throughout the country and being flown in from Argentina and Chile. Dekalb dealers and

customers will begin taking delivery of South American-produced seed this week and deliveries will accelerate through mid-April.

"Harvest has progressed at a rapid pace, a result of favorable weather conditions in Argentina and Chile," said Vernon Benes, Roundup Ready corn marketing manager for Dekalb. "With the excellent production conditions in South American this year, we have increased our estimated supply of many key Bt and Roundup Ready hybrids Dekalb is selling this spring."

Shipments of U.S.-grown seed are well under way and will account for about 80 percent of Dekalb's entire sales. "Based upon laboratory tests, this seed is demonstrating the highest germination and quality test results we have seen in years," said Kent Martin, director of supply management for Dekalb.

## Semex Alliance Acquires Pa. Bull

MADISON, Wis. — The Semex Alliance, headquartered in Guelph, Ontario, recently purchased a young bull from Pennsylvania breeders — Fantasyland Holsteins of Robesonia.

Fantasyland Macro is an Etazon Celsius son from Fantasyland Aero Melanie. Melane is a 92 point Aerostar

daughter that completed a 3-year-old record of 41,237 pounds of milk and 1316 pounds of protein. The next dam is Ex daughter of Walkway Chief Mark, also with outstanding production numbers of 30,235 of milk and 966 of protein. The third dam is 92 point Bell daughter that made more than 39,000 pounds of milk.

## Blower Fills 100-Foot Silos

NEW HOLLAND (Lancaster Co.) — The new Model F62B New Holland low-vibration forage blower center-fills silos more than 100 feet tall.

Featuring a 60-inch diameter fan with 37-inch hopper and 12-inch feed auger, the new blower moves material at rates of 110 tons per hour for haylage and 180

tons per hour in corn silage to keep pace with large-capacity forage harvesters.

The 60-inch fan paddles have an 8,460 FPM tip speed. The blower pipe outlet assembly is hinged to provide easy access for paddle clearance inspection and adjustment. Adjustable transport wheels simplify location and set up at the silo.

## Study Shows Strength Of Brand

GREENVILLE, S.C. — More than a decade after production of BFGoodrich® brand tires for the farm and ranch market ceased, the BFGoodrich brand continues to receive strong recognition for historical quality performance, according to a telephone survey of more than 1,000 Class 1A grain farmers completed prior to the relaunch of the brand.

When asked which brands they could name unaided, 25 percent listed the BFGoodrich® brand. Virtually all said they were aware of the brand, with more than half saying they were familiar enough with the BFGoodrich brand to rate its quality.

Of those who rated quality based on their statement of

familiarity with the brand, approximately half gave the BFGoodrich brand a quality rating of eight or higher on a 10-point scale. Those who were not well enough acquainted with the brand were asked to provide a quality rating based on name recognition and any information they had previously heard. Nearly a third of those farmers gave the BFGoodrich brand a rank of 8 to 10.

Farmers also said they are "very likely" to consider buying BFGoodrich® brand tires based on comparisons with other brands which are priced competitively.

Matthias Telemarketing Management based in Omaha, Neb., conducted the survey for Michelin North America Inc.

## White Oak Mills Names Top Producers

ELIZABETHTOWN (Lancaster Co.) — In an effort to promote efficient pork production by its grow-finish operations, White Oak Mills Inc. is pleased to announce the recipients of its "White Oak Mills Outstanding Producer Awards."

Pennsylvania contract producers Guy Anderson of Needmore and LaMar Troup of Beaver Springs recently were recognized and honored by White Oak Mills for their efficient pork production.

White Oak Mills swine managers judged the grow-finish producers on their 1997 farm performance. Performance categories included production — such as average daily gain, feed conversion, culls, and mortality — as well as overall farm management.

In addition, White Oak Mills commended Troup and Anderson for their attention to detail and effective communications with the company.

Both award recipients are Pork Quality Assurance (PQA) Level III certified and follow strict nutrient management plans as is expected of all White Oak contract producers. Troup also is Environmental Quality Assurance (EQA) certified.

Anderson and Troup were two of 44 growers evaluated for the award.

Troup produces 3,000 hogs per turn for the company on his 297-acre Snyder County farm. Anderson owns and operates a 1,300-head finishing facility in Fulton County which he contracts to White Oak Mills.

When asked what he appreciates most about pork production, Troup said, "I find the chal-



Mary Lee and LaMar Troup display their White Oak Mills Outstanding Producer Award.



White Oak Mills Inc. recently recognized M. Normalee and Guy Anderson for the efficient pork production.

lenges of farming very rewarding. I like working with animals and being my own boss."

To best manage his pork production operation, Troup said he completes thorough facility walk-throughs. He generates a weekly computer spreadsheet report which depicts production status by room. Then he analyzes the records for potential problem areas.

"White Oak Mills services my farm regularly and makes sure I don't overlook anything," said Troup. "They help with troubleshooting and overall animal husbandry. We are always sharing our observations and ideas with one another, especially when it comes to herd health."

Troup is an active member of the Central Susquehanna Pork Producers, West Snyder Young Farmer's Association, Pennsylvania Farm Bureau, and FFA Alumni Association. In addition, he serves on two agri-

cultural boards: the Pennsylvania Pork Producers' Council Board and the Crop Management Services Board. He's been a Pennsylvania pork producer since February 1993.

Anderson (who helps run a family sawmill operation) has been involved in pork production for 11 years. Having grown up on a farm, Anderson said, "Once farming is in your blood, it's hard to get it out of your system. I enjoy the work."

Receiving assistance with the loading/unloading of pigs from his two sons, son-in-law and grandsons, Anderson also relies on White Oak Mills for overall service support and regular farm calls.

In recognition for top White Oak pork production, Anderson and Troup each received a White Oak Mills Outstanding Producer Award certificate and a \$350 gift certificate to a local sporting goods store.

## New Variable Size Balers Available From Claas

WARSAW, Ind. — Claas of America offers the new Variant 180 variable chamber round baler to complement its range of Rollant fixed-size chamber balers.

The Variant produces bales of varying sizes and densities to provide greater flexibility to those switching between producing small silage and hay bales to large straw and hay bales. The bales can be varied infinitely between 35-inch and 72-inch diameter. Bale width is 48 inches.

The baler features a rotor to provide a positive crop feed from the 82-inch wide pickup. The rotor turns the bale immediately after the material enters the chamber to provide a faster start to each bale plus regulates and smooths crop flow to produce a well-shaped bale.

A Roto Cut™ option featuring 14 spring-loaded knives in the throat feeds crop through by the rotor slicing the material. Theoretical chop length is 2¼ inches. The knives can be disengaged by operating a switch on the cab-mounted control box.

The bale chamber is made up of five high-tensile, wear-resistant belts, which cover 94 percent of the bale and assure constant rotation. A pressure gauge mounted on the baler's front indicates the bale density created by the two hydraulic cylinders.

Total bale density can be varied for different types of crops and conditions while a gas accumulator independently controls bale

center's density to give the bale breathing space through its core if required.

Both Variant models are available with either Rollatex net wrapping or twine typing or both. Three rolls of net or 12 spools of twine can be carried on the baler.

The heavy-duty drives are de-

signed for even the most difficult conditions. An additional belt drive ensures constant rotation when heavy silage is being baled. Automatic chain lubrication, bale discharge ramp, hydraulic pickup lift and dual-gauge wheel are standard equipment.

## J-Star Offers Conveyor Lineup

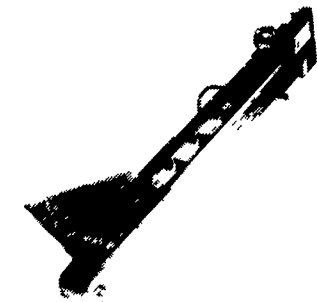
FORT ATKINSON, Wis. — J-Star Industries has introduced a new line of single chain utility conveyors.

The J-Star line incorporates the best features of the company's previous Jamesway®, Van Dale® and Starline® MODELS AND IS PART OF J-Star's overall marketing strategy to offer farmers the convenience and quality of an all-in-one farmstead equipment source.

Available in 9-inch and 11-inch models, J-Star single chain conveyors have factory preassembled drives for easy installation. Both models also feature simple combination belt and chain reduction drives plus enclosed bottom decks for safe and clean chain return. Each conveyor is economical and efficient and features a "safety/service" shutoff switch conveniently located on the conveyor at the drive.

The 9-inch single chain conveyor is designed to handle short to medium distance feeding of up to 50 feet in length. This model fea-

tures a proven number 62 steel detachable conveyor chain with metal-backed rubber flights to efficiently move the feed a fast 144 feet per minute. J-Star's 11-inch-drive single chain conveyor has a rugged 667H pintle chain and 2½-inch x 10¼-inch wide rubber flights to move feed 130 feet per minute.



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